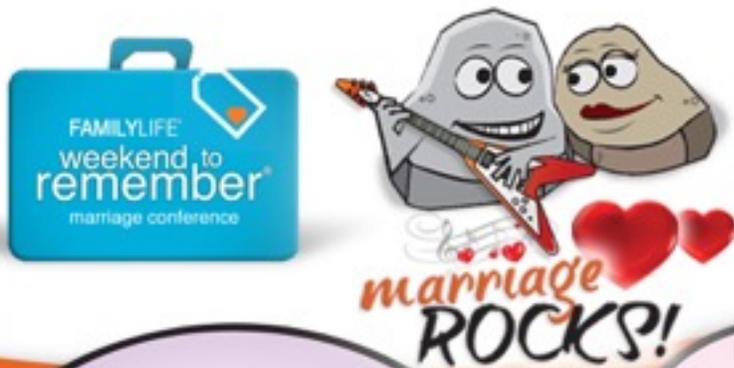




by Russel & Joelle Aching - Team Leaders - FamilyLife T&T



In this Issue

The good news about marriage conferences

Everybody wins, when leaders get better

Equipping to better serve

This getaway saved our marriage... I had already filed for divorce, I am so thankful that God spoke to my husband and he convinced me to come here, (with our 3 month old baby) Thank you!

Eye-opening, convicting, offered a chance for change, tools to work with, real, downright straight forward, very excellent, ready to move ahead.

I am not married yet, but this programme has answered all the questions I was concerned with and has enlightened me with information and wisdom

An incredible learning experience. A glimpse into married life and what is expected to make marriage work- an excellent resource for pre married couples.

I was depressed because my marriage was failing...God answered my prayers with this seminar ... I gained a wealth of knowledge and I started to feel a connection to my spouse once more.

It made me more in love with God and my wonderful husband.

Life changing!

It made me realize that giving up is not an option

"I have truly never experienced a marriage retreat/conference as real, relevant, impacting and culture sensitive"

The good news about marriage conferences

In our last newsletter we shared some good news about marriage, noting that simple changes can make a big difference in marriage, and that the biggest threat to marriage is not **divorce**, it is actually **discouragement**. This means that encouragement to promote change in personal behavior can significantly impact relationships. People need hope, and that is what FamilyLife is about "Help for today, Hope for tomorrow".

And the good news about marriage conferences such as our FamilyLife "Weekend to Remember" marriage conference is that this is exactly what we aim to achieve, and the feedback tells us that we have.

This year we had a notable increase in registrations, resulting in us reaching the full capacity of 110 couples, one week before the event. Unfortunately several last minute registration requests were turned away. Participants ranged from dating, to engaged, to newly weds and even some 40 + years married. There were also several Alumni couples who attended the conference before and use the conference as a means of maintaining a healthy marriage.

Our four-couple speaker team with their diverse backgrounds - a Family life Educator, a Pastor/ Campus Crusade Director, a Caterer/ Entrepreneur, a Police Officer, a Homemaker/ Homeschooler, a CEO, an Executive Coach and an Engineer, all shared their lives, giving real stories to illustrate the power of timeless biblical principles.

It is always rewarding to see many couples come in, barely communicating with each other and by the end of the first day, those couples are smiling, holding hands and sharing intimate moments with each other. The feedback was tremendous and provided further encouragement to continue the work of strengthening marriages, despite the relentless drive of some, to redefine the family away from God's original intention.

95% of respondents rated the conference 9 and above, with 10 being excellent. This is a tremendous testimony of the power of God, the diligence of our core team and the generosity of our sponsors and partners. Putting on an event of this standard takes effort. A lot of work goes on in the months leading up to the two days and we wish to thank the Core team and all the volunteers, who willingly give their time and talent to make it all happen.

We look forward to reconnecting with our participants again on October 17th at **I Still Do 2015**. Details will be communicated soon, in the meantime you can get some more information about the event at <http://www.familylifett.org/#!/events/c192a>.

More photos can be viewed on our website and Facebook page.



Everybody wins, when leaders get better

- Thank you for being a part of another Win-Win initiative

According to Bill Hybels, Founder of The Global Leadership Summit. “Everybody wins, when a leader gets better” and this has been our experience with FamilyLife events and initiatives. As volunteers of a non-profit organization, it is this labour of love that has the greatest returns. We have gotten better as a result of somebody else’s sacrifice and now we willingly sacrifice for the benefit of others.

The same is true for all our supporters, donors and sponsors. While we may not always be able to measure the return for each contribution, we understand the principle of sowing and reaping and know that we are all already enjoying the fruit of our charity.

Apart from the thousands who received communications from us via various media streams, more than 55,000 viewers on Facebook were reached over the past six weeks. We experienced a 13% increase in participants and sponsors earned much goodwill among the 220 plus participants at the conference, where we made sure to emphasize that the event quality they experienced was made possible only with the support of our partners. Sponsors benefited from advertising exposure among thousands on Isaac 98.1 FM and 107.1 FM and their logos were prominently displayed on social media and projected on the screen during the conference.



Your support extends beyond the conference as several couples indicated an interest in our “Art of Marriage Connect Series” – *small group sessions facilitated at homes in different parts of the nation and a key follow-up element of our strategy, to continuously strengthen families.* So we are truly grateful for your partnership which allows us to accomplish with you what we could not on our own.

Are you interested in developing character in the youth of your community to positively impact our nation?

Through our Life at the CrossRoads programme, many students and their families have been better equipped to develop character, avoid risky behavior and acquire values and life skills, so that they can now make healthier and wiser choices.

CrossRoads is a strategy that provides educational solutions to communities devastated by social crises like, teenage pregnancy, drug addition and HIV/AIDS. Please call for more information.



Equipping to better serve

- Would you partner with us?

This year staff from all over the Latin America and Caribbean region would be meeting in Panama for leadership training from July 29th to August 8th 2015. The theme for this year's conference is "Solo Uno", One God, One Mission, One Community. As staff with FamilyLife, we need to raise \$US 5,000 to get there and are offering this Husband and Wife resource as a means of raising support.

We take this opportunity to thank our Ministry Partners (special thanks to Wayne Rostant & T&T Printing Works) for changing the world through your generous support.



**We all need a reminder from time to time of how we can be better husbands and wives.
Get this pocket-sized card for only TT\$10 each...**



Whether for you, your parents, your friends or your married children, this gift can improve the quality of your relationship and leadership, or at least start a healthy conversation on how you can best meet each others needs.

Note: Proceeds go towards staff training for Russel & Joelle Aching in Panama July 28 - August 9, 2015. Call 771-7105 or 682-0266 to order.

Thank you for your support.